

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PAUL PETER MENDOZA,

Plaintiff,

v.

KILOLO KIJAKAZI, Acting  
Commissioner of Social Security,

Defendant.

No. 1:22-cv-00370-ADA-HBK (SS)

ORDER ADOPTING THE PARTIES'  
STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD OF  
ATTORNEY'S FEES UNDER THE EQUAL  
ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT

(ECF No. 28)

On March 29, 2022, Plaintiff Paul Peter Mendoza filed this action seeking review of a final decision of Defendant Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. (ECF No. 1.) The Court remanded the matter on June 30, 2023 for further administrative proceedings pursuant to sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). (ECF No. 26.) On September 27, 2023, the parties filed a stipulation that Plaintiff should be awarded attorney's fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), in the amount of \$6,081.90. (ECF No. 28.)

Accordingly,

1. Pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), Plaintiff is awarded attorney's fees in the amount of \$6,081.90;
2. After the issuance of this order, the government shall consider the assignment of the Equal Access to Justice Act attorney's fees to Plaintiff's counsel as follows:

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- a. Pursuant to the decision in *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010), any such assignment will depend on whether the attorney's fees are subject to any offset allowed under the United States Department of Treasury's Offset Program;
- b. Fees shall be made payable to Plaintiff, but if the Department of Treasury determines that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, then the government shall cause the payment of attorney's fees to be made directly to Plaintiff's counsel, Jonathan O. Peña;
- c. Whether the payment of attorney's fees is made payable to Plaintiff or to her counsel, the check will be mailed to Plaintiff's counsel's mailing address at:

Jonathan O. Peña  
Peña & Bromberg, PLC  
2440 Tulare St., Suite 320  
Fresno, CA 93721

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: October 2, 2023

  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE